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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

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Applicants:

H. AKIMOTO et al.

Serial No.:

09/975,934

Filed:

October 15, 2001

For:

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Art Unit:

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Examiner:

R. Liang

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NOTICE OF APPEAL

Box AF

September 23, 2002

Assistant Commissioner for Patents Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

The applicants hereby appeal to the Board of Patent Appeals and Interferences from the decision of the Examiner dated May 23, 2002, finally rejecting claims 1-15. Submitted herewith is a credit card payment form in payment of the fee of \$320.00 required for filing this Notice of Appeal.

To the extent necessary, the applicants petition for an extension of time under 37 CFR 1.136. Please charge any shortage in fees due in connection with the filing of this paper, including extension of time fees and appeal fees, or 09/24/2002 RHARISI 00000066 09975934

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credit any overpayment of fees, to the deposit account of Antonelli, Terry, Stout & Kraus, LLP, Deposit Account No. 01-2135 (520.36114CX1).

Respectfully submitted,

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